(c) the action taken to assist the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Space Scientists on Foreign Postings

1843. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) in which countries have our space scientists been posted;

(b) the works they are supposed to do;

(c) what is criteria for selecting space scientists for foreign postings;

(d) whether there is any system of mid-term appraisal their performance outside; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) The Department of Space (DOS) has posted its Scientists/Enginerrs in USA, France and Mauritius as given below:

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Scientists/ Engrs. posted
1.	USA	1
2.	France	1
3.	Mauritius	2
	Total	4

(b) The Scientists posted in USA and France are responsible for Liaision and coordination between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and relevant space institutions/industries abroad dealing with Space Technology and its applications;

The Scientists posted to Mauritius are responsible for:

(i) providing telemetry, tracking and command operations support to Indian Remote Sensing Satellites through a set of equipment at our Ground Station in Mauritius on a continuous basis; and

(ii) to carryout maintenance and installation activities, whenever required, for the equipment in the station etc.

(c) The criteria for selection of Scientists/Engineers posted at USA and France are that the selectee should be an experienced Space Scientists with technomanagerial ability to assess the needs of Indian Space Programme and undertake technical liaison abroad and to establish and maintain scientific and technical linkages with space agencies, space industries and other institutions. Selection will be from amongst senior Scientists/ Engineers, by a High Level Committee.

In the of Scientists/Engineers posted at Mauritius, the selection is based on technical skill the Scientists/Engineers possess with regard to Ground Station Equipment, their operation and maintenance, spacecraft operations support, space communication links, experience with similar activities in Ground Station in India etc.

(d) Yes, Sir, performance appraisal is done annually.

(e) Does not arise.

Launching of INSAT-2E

1844. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to launch INSAT-2E;

(b) if so, what kind of services are likely to be rendered from INSAT-2E;

(c) the expected date of launching it; and

(d) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) INSAT-2E spacecraft will augment the Normal-C band capacity in the INSAT system. INSAT-2E also carries 3-channel Very High Resolution Radiometer (VHRR) and a 3-channel CCD camera for Meteorological imaging of the Earth. The coverage of the INSAT-2E spacecraft is wider than its predecessors.

(c) INSAT-2E spacecraft is likely to be launched between April 2—9, 1999 from Kourou, French Guyana.

(d) INSAT-2E spacecraft has been transported to the launch site, Kourou, French Guyana where it is undergoing pre-flight testing.

Utilisation of water Resources in Punjab

1845. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether water resources in the country particularly in the State of Punjab are fully utilised;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a number of inter-State water disputes are putting an obstacle in the utilisation of water resources; and

(d) if so the measures Government are contemplating to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) Average annual flow available in the rivers of the country is assessed as 1869 billion cubic metre. Out of this, the utilisable water resources is assessed as 1122 billion cubic metre because of topographical and hydrological constraints, evaporation and evapotranspiration losses and for maintaining river regimes. Even full utilisation of the utilisable water resources was not possible due to constraints of funds, environment, land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement of project affected people and inter-State issues.

Resolution of inter-State issues is attempted through discussions, negotiations and finally by adjudication through Tribunals set up under Inter-State Water Disputes Act-1956.

जल-संसाधनों के विकास के लिए योजना

1846. **श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश में अगले दशक के लिए जल-संसाधनों के विकास के लिए कोई अंतिम रूप-रेखा तैयार की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सिंचाई कार्यों के लिए विदेशी एजेन्सियों और संगठनों का सहयोग प्राप्त करने के लिए कोई नीतिगत योजना बनायी गयी है; और

(घ) क्या संसद द्वारा राष्ट्रीय जल-संसाधन नीति की समीक्षा की जाएगी?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा जल संसाधन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोमपाल): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) राष्ट्रीय जल संसाधन परिषद् जिसके अध्यक्ष प्रधान मंत्री हैं, द्वारा राष्ट्रीय जल नीति अपनाई जाती है और तत्पश्चात् यह सभापटल पर रखी जाती है।

Funds for Controlling Floods in North-Eastern Region

1847. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocated amount to the State of NER for controlling floods during the 8th and 9th plan;

(b) the amount of additional allocation sought by different State of NER for the purpose in the above plan; and